

April 22, 1999

Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
Docket No. 98N-1265
Food and Drug Administration
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville MD 20857

7949 '99 APR 27 A8:50

Dear Sir or Madam:

I oppose the draft MOU being proposed by the FDA.. In particular, I object to the definition of "inordinate amount" which restricts the availability and the right to obtain medically necessary compounded medications by limiting the number of prescriptions that can be shipped across state lines from specialized compounding pharmacies.

When I began hormone replacement therapy five years ago, using traditional synthetic hormones, I became nearly incapacitated by side effects of headaches, sleeplessness, anxiety and depression. When my Dr. and I switched my treatment to compounded hormones, they restored my ability to live a normal, fully functioning productive life, with no debilitating effects on my long-term career and active family. The only difficulty then became filling the prescriptions. The only pharmacy in this area that will make them must charge more than \$200 each month because of the relatively low demand, and my insurance will not cover that amount. Being able to order my prescriptions from Madison Pharmacy Associates in Wisconsin, a high volume distributor nationwide, reduced my cost and made it within the coverage limits of my health insurance with only a \$20 copayment. In addition, this gave me access to the expertise of a pharmacy specialized in compounding hormones, which allows my Dr. and I to work closely with them in any adjustments needed.

Since the largest female population in U.S. history is becoming menopausal over the next 20 years, it would seem in the best interest of our society to promote rather than inhibit access to the necessary and appropriate medications to help them continue highly productive lives.

Sincerely,

Connie Corcoran
Connie Corcoran

cc: U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer
U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein
U.S. Congressman David Dreier

98N-1265

C1409

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